Today's News - Wednesday, May 21, 2008

- Huxtable on architectural follies: Gehry's Serpentine "does not disappoint," but not completing Utzon's vision for Sydney Opera House "would be world-class folly."
- 2008 America's 11 Most Endangered Places.
- No rescue in sight for Berlin's Tempelhof Airport: How sad.
 Russell on "scary NYU plans" and St. Vincent hospital "horror": can Greenwich Village "survive the onslaught?"
 Meanwhile, St. Vincent's revamps plans: are they better?
- Prospects for Ground Zero arts center seem to be fading.
- Flight 93 Memorial design debate doesn't abate.A new player for NYC's Hudson Yards.
- Tiny Monaco has inventive expansion plans could set a precedent for other coastal expansions; studying five bids "in top secrecy."
- King explores a San Francisco neighborhood that shows the city's future today.
- An in-depth look at the "twisting tale" of Chicago Spire: will it get built?
 Uganda gets a new tower: a "a furry green beast of a building."
- An 81-story super slim tower for Dubai.
- 2012 Olympics Athletes' Village design team whittled down to 18.
- An eyeful of UNStudio's Manhattan tower.
- The engineer as architect debate: will it create a hybrid profession?
- Former CABE head says London's planning sector is over-reliant on Australians.
- Dyckhoff on Kew Gardens' "quietly İconic" Xstrata Treetop Walkway.
 Berlin Philharmonie escapes severe fire damage.
- The owner of Neutra's Kaufmann House bids it goodbye; Kahn's Esherick House still up for sale.
- 2008 SCUP/AIA-CAE Excellence in Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Architecture Award winners.

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In Praise -- and Not -- of Follies: The eighth [Serpentine Gallery] will be by Frank Gehry, and it does not disappoint...the long-delayed fulfillment of Jørn Utzon's aborted vision is finally within reach. Redemption is rare, second chances even rarer; not to go for it now would be world-class folly. By Ada lousie Huxtable -- Cecil Balmond/Arup-Wall Street Journal

2008 America's 11 Most Endangered Places: NYC Lower East Side; Vizcaya and the Bonnet House, Florida; Michigan Avenue Streetwall, Chicago; Boyd Theatre, Philadelphia; California's State Parks; New Orleans Charity Hospital and neighborhood; etc. [images, video]- National Trust for Historic Preservation

No Rescue, Yet, for Airport That Saved Berlin: ...mayor is going ahead with plans to close Tempelhof Airport by year's end. How sad...Certain places...inspire bonds of affection that transcend logic and can't be expressed in profit and loss. It doesn't matter whether they're great cultural monuments or civic symbols. Tempelhof also happens to be those things. -- Ernst Sagebiel (1930s) [slide show]- New York Times

Scary NYU Plans, St. Vincent Horror Threaten Greenwich Village: Can the Village's intimate streets and squares survive the onslaught? By James S. Russell -- Pei Cobb Freed; FXFowle; Steven Holl [images]- Bloomberg News

St. Vincent's Hail Mary: Hospital makes second go at developer swap, landmark demo -- Albert Ledner' (1960s); FXFowle; Pei Cobb Freed [images]- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

Ground Zero arts center stalls: With no funds and anchors exiting, plan is in disarray...center's prospects appear to be fading. -- Daniel Libeskind; Frank Gehry 9AP)- Hollywood Reporter

Design Debate Over Flight 93 Memorial Revived: Two professors claim that the design for a memorial to those killed on Sept. 11 includes parts of their own work...most of those involved thought the debate over the design of the \$58 million first phase of the memorial to be built near Shanksville, Pa., was over. -- Lisa Austin; Madis Pihlak; Paul Murdoch- New York Times

New Developer Signs \$1 Billion Deal to Transform West Side Railyards: Less than two weeks after the collapse of a billion-dollar deal to develop the railyards on Manhattan's Far West Side, Related Companies has agreed to salvage the plan [for] Hudson Yards. -- Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF); Arquitectonica; Robert A. M. Stern- New York Times

<u>Cramped Monaco plans new district - on stilts: Prince Albert studies bids from leading</u> architects, Campaigners voice fears for ecosystem...will jut out from the shore on stilts, inspired by the design of oil rigs, and could set a precedent for coastal expansion elsewhere...studying five bids "in top secrecy"...architects including Norman Foster and IM Pei have been linked.- Guardian (UK)

Tomorrow's San Francisco, on view today: ...the 300 block of Spear Street is a textbook example of how cities change - both physically and culturally. By John King-San Francisco Chronicle

Towering Ambition: The Chicago Spire aims to be the tallest skyscraper in North America. But will it get built? The twisting tale so far...could be a symbol of the 21st century with its own not-so-hidden meaning... By Jay Pridmore -- Santiago Calatrava [images]- Chicago Magazine

aSPIRE Tower: Half building, half tropical savannah, Paragon Architects' new project...in Kampala, Uganda, is a furry green beast of a building. [slide show]-ArabianBusiness.com

Atkins designs super slim tower in Dubai: 81-storey 'P-17'...will have the illusion of constantly changing its appearance with the movement of people and the sun... [image]- ArabianBusiness.com

Athletes' Village design team whittled down: ...will ensure design excellence... — Caruso St John; CF Møller; Denton Corker Marshall; de Rijke Marsh Morgan (dRMM); DSDHA; Eric Parry; Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands; Glenn Howells; lan Ritchie; Niall McLaughlin; Panter Hudspith; Penoyre & Prasad; Piercy Conner; Make Architects; lan Simpson; Vogt Landscape Architects; Patel Taylor; Fletcher Priest-The Architects' Journal (UK)

UNStudio Gets First Major U.S. Project: ...Five Franklin Place, a condominium tower that will rise in Manhattan's swanky Tribeca neighborhood. -- Ben van Berkel, Caroline Bos[slide show]- Architectural Record

Think event explores the engineer as architect debate: Is the architectural profession under attack in our supposedly new shiny sustainable world? ...extremely wide challenges that sustainability is setting will, in the end, create a hybrid profession.—BD/Building Design (UK)

Stuart Lipton warns that London's planning sector is over-reliant on Australians...a situation he claimed is creating a "stop-go" development culture.- BD/Building Design (UK)

A bird's eye view of a garden of Eden: Kew Gardens is about to open a walkway in the sky up in the treetops...Xstrata Treetop Walkway...may be several hundred tonnes of steel, but it's only quietly iconic. By Tom Dyckhoff -- Marks Barfield- The Times (UK)

Berlin Philharmonie Escapes Severe Damage: ...damage to the building seems to be far less extensive than originally feared and the huge concert hall that seats 2.400 people and is famed for its acoustics was not damaged at all. -- Hans Scharoun (1963) [slide show]- Der Spiegel (Germany)

Inside the Auction of the Kaufmann House: The Owner of Neutra's Icon Says Goodbye to the House She Helped Save. -- Julius Shulman- Preservation magazine

Louis Kahn-Designed House (Still) Up for Sale: Esherick House...failed to leave the auction block... [images, links]- Architectural Record

2008 SCUP/AIA-CAE Excellence in Planning, Excellence in Landscape Architecture and Excellence in Architecture Award Recipients -- Payette; Beyer Blinder Belle; Reed Hilderbrand; Elkus Manfredi; Towers[Golde; Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects; William L. Rawn; MGA Partners; HGA; EHDD; Nitsch; Martinez & Johnson; Centerbrook Architects; Perry Dean Rogers [images]- Society for College and University Planning (SCUP)

Break, Pivot, Fuse: Conundrums of Shifting Space: The Daly Street Lofts by Joseph Giovannini: Live/work lofts take on a new life - temporarily - as experimental exhibition spaces open to the public for the next two weekends. [images]- ArchNewsNow

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Yesterday's News

⁻⁻ Installation & Exhibition: James Turrell Skyscape, Pomona College, Claremont, California

⁻⁻ Rafael Viñoly Architects: UCLA NanoSystems Institute (CNSI), Los Angeles